

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present Amendment, claims 1-8, 11-18, 20, 23-25, 28, 32-34, 36-38, 40, 41, 43-48, 50-52, 68, 69, 72 and 73 will be pending. Claims 9, 10, 19, 21, 22, 26, 27, 29-31, 35, 39, 42, 49, 70 and 71 are canceled. Applicants reserve the rights to pursue the canceled subject matter in a subsequent application. Support for amended claims 1 and 68 can be found throughout the application and, *inter alia*, in the original claims 1, 27, 34, 36, 37, 40, 41, 43-45 and/or 68. Support for new claims 72 and 73 can be found throughout the application and, *inter alia*, in the original claims 1, 6, 19, 27, 34, 36, 37, 45 and/or 68. The above-described amendments do not introduce any new matter into the present application.

Withdraw of the Previous Rejections/Objections

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's withdraw of all the previous rejections/objections.

Allowable Subject Matter

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's recognition that claims 6, 34, 36-38, 40, 41, 43 and 44 are allowable.

Claim Objections

Claim 1 is objected to because of the following informality: in line 3 -- a - should be inserted between "onto" and "surface".

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's recognition of the informality and has amended claim 1 according to the Examiner's suggestion.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102-103

Claims 1-5, 7, 8, 11-18, 20, 23-25, 28, 32, 45, 48, 50, 51 and 68 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Weetall et al., U.S. Patent no. 5,620,857 (Weetall).

Claims 33, 46, 47, 52, and 69 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Weetall.

Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections. However, in order to advance the prosecution, applicants has deleted “said moiety is not directly manipulatable by an optical radiation force and said moiety-binding partner complex is manipulated by an optical radiation force effected via a laser tweezers” in claims 1 and 68. Applicants respectfully submit that this amendment overcomes the anticipation and obviousness rejections over Weetall.

New claims 72 and 73 are patentable over Weetall because new claims 72 and 73 incorporate the limitations of claims 6, 34, 36 or 37, which the Examiner has indicated to be allowable.

It is respectfully submitted that all art based rejections under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102-103 are overcome by the above remarks and/or amendments and must be withdrawn.

Priority

The Examiner acknowledged the applicants’ claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in China on August 08, 2000. The Examiner noted, however, that applicants have not filed a certified copy of the Chinese application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).

Applicants will file a certified copy of the Chinese application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b) once the present application is allowed.

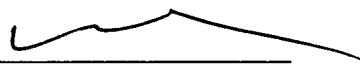
CONCLUSIONS

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to withdraw the outstanding rejection of the claims and to pass this application to issue. If it is determined that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at the number given below.

In the event the U.S. Patent and Trademark office determines that an extension and/or other relief is required, applicants petition for any required relief including extensions of time and authorize the Commissioner to charge the cost of such petitions and/or other fees due in connection with the filing of this document to Deposit Account No. 03-1952 referencing docket no. 471842000100. However, the Commissioner is not authorized to charge the cost of the issue fee to the Deposit Account.

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Respectfully submitted,

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